

## **I. Strategy to Identify Impediments**

Throughout all of the initiatives described above, regular feedback from system staff and customers is used to identify impediments to a successful service delivery system. Consistent analysis of that information is used to initiate policy and regulatory modifications.

## **J. WIA Waivers**

In order to effectively use the flexibility afforded by the waiver process, and to further enhance the efficiency of program operations in the state, Iowa requests the following waivers:

1. Policy and Procedures for Continuing Eligibility of WIA Training Providers: Iowa is requesting an extension to the existing waiver to extend the period of “Initial Eligibility of Training Providers” through the end of this two year planning cycle, thereby postponing the “Subsequent Eligibility of Training Providers” determination period. This request is a waiver from the Workforce Investment Act Section 122 (c) (5) and 20CFR 663.530. The extension is needed to maintain the broadest range of eligible providers to enable individuals to make informed choices relating to their training goals.

Iowa is committed to the philosophy of maximizing customer choice and assuring that all significant population groups are served. This waiver, if approved, will provide us with the increased flexibility to meet the standards required by the Workforce Investment Act and ensure state and local accountability for the results of our system.

2. Transfer of Funds Between Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs: In order to be afforded maximum flexibility to respond to the needs of workers and job seekers, Iowa requests a waiver to allow the transfer of 100% of funds between the Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams. Such a waiver will allow regional boards to respond to specific needs in their areas that may be created by significant numbers of worker dislocations, changes in the local economic environment, intent to increase services to specific populations, or similar issues. This request is a waiver from the Workforce Investment Act Section 133(b)(4), and 20CFR667.140.

Iowa is committed to customer service, and this waiver will provide the flexibility to meet customer needs as they arise. The waiver will support both federal and state goals to support the local direction for resource use, will continue to emphasize the training element of the WIA program, and will provide the flexibility of merged funding streams while maintaining core service delivery in the One-Stop Centers supported by Wagner-Peyser funding streams.

Regional Workforce Investment Boards must initiate any requests for the transfer of funds. State policies will be established to ensure that such transfers will not negatively impact performance achievement or the potential to acquire additional program resources, such as National Emergency Grants. In such cases, the state will have the authority to deny transfer requests.